

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend Claims 41, 99, and 319, cancel Claims 4, 5, 8, 18 - 21, 23 - 25, 33, 34, 42 - 56, 59 - 69, 71 - 74, 76, 77, 85 - 96, 100 - 113, 115 - 126, 267, 271 - 280, 282 - 288, 290 - 309, 311 - 318, and 320 - 364 without prejudice, and add new Claims 365 - 368 so that the claims are as follows:

1. (Previously amended) A structure comprising:
 - a plate;
 - a light-blocking region overlying the plate and being generally non-transmissive of visible light, an opening extending largely through the light-blocking region above where the plate is generally transmissive of visible light;
 - a light-emissive region overlying the plate and situated at least partially in the opening in the light-blocking region;
 - a getter region overlying at least part of the light-blocking region and extending no more than partially laterally across the light-emissive region; and
 - a perforated electrically non-insulating layer overlying at least part of the getter region or/and at least part of the light-emissive region.
2. (Original) A structure as in Claim 1 wherein an opening extends through the getter region generally laterally where the light-emissive region overlies the plate.
3. (Original) A structure as in Claim 1 wherein the light-blocking region is largely absorptive of visible light which passes through the plate and impinges on the light-blocking region.
- 4 and 5. (Canceled)
6. (Original) A structure as in Claim 1 wherein the non-insulating layer overlies at least the light-emissive region.
7. (Original) A structure as in Claim 6 wherein the non-insulating layer is generally reflective of visible light.
- 8 and 9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) A structure as in Claim 1 wherein the light-emissive region emits light upon being struck by electrons of sufficiently high energy.
11. (Original) A structure as in Claim 1 wherein the light-blocking region laterally surrounds the light-emissive region.
12. (Original) A structure as in Claim 1 wherein the light-blocking region extends further away from the plate than the light-emissive region.
13. (Original) A structure as in Claim 1 wherein the getter region comprises at least one of aluminum, titanium, vanadium, iron, zirconium, niobium, molybdenum, barium, tantalum, tungsten, and thorium.
14. (Original) A structure as in Claim 1 wherein the getter region comprises a titanium-zirconium alloy.
15. (Original) A structure as in Claim 1 wherein the getter region consists largely of only a single atomic element.
16. (Previously amended) A structure as in Claim 15 wherein the single atomic element is one of aluminum, titanium, vanadium, iron, zirconium, niobium, molybdenum, barium, tantalum, tungsten, and thorium.
17. (Original) A structure as in Claim 1 further including an additional region situated over at least part of the light-blocking region and under at least part of the non-insulating layer.
- 18 - 21. (Canceled)
22. (Original) A structure as in Claim 1 further including a protective layer situated over at least part of the getter region and under the non-insulating layer, the protective layer lying between at least part of the getter region and at least part of the light-emissive region.
- 23 - 25. (Canceled)
26. (Original) A structure as in Claim 1 wherein the getter region extends at least partway down into the opening in the light-blocking region.

27. (Original) A structure as in Claim 1 wherein the getter region extends substantially all the way down into the opening in the light-blocking region.

28. (Original) A structure as in Claim 1 wherein the getter region extends into the opening in the light-blocking region and partially over the plate at the bottom of the opening in the light-blocking region.

29. (Original) A structure as in Claim 1 further including a device for emitting electrons which strike the light-emissive region and cause it to emit light.

30. (Previously amended) A structure as in Claim 29 wherein the electron-emitting device includes a further getter region situated at least partially in an active electron-emitting portion of the electron-emitting device.

31. (Previously amended) A structure comprising:

a plate;

a light-blocking region overlying the plate and being generally non-transmissive of visible light, an opening extending largely through the light-blocking region above where the plate is generally transmissive of visible light;

a light-emissive region overlying the plate and situated at least partially in the opening in the light-blocking region;

an electrically non-insulating layer overlying at least part of the light-blocking region; and

a getter region overlying at least part of the non-insulating layer above at least part of the light-blocking region, an opening extending largely through the getter region generally laterally where the light-emissive region overlies the plate.

32. (Original) A structure as in Claim 31 wherein the light-blocking region is largely absorptive of visible light which passes through the plate and impinges on the light-blocking region.

33 and 34. (Canceled)

35. (Original) A structure as in Claim 31 wherein the non-insulating layer also overlies at least part of the light-emissive region.

36. (Original) A structure as in Claim 35 wherein the non-insulating layer is generally reflective of visible light.

37. (Original) A structure as in Claim 31 wherein the light-emissive region emits light upon being struck by electrons of sufficiently high energy.

38. (Original) A structure as in Claim 31 wherein the light-blocking region extends further away from the plate than the light-emissive region.

39. (Original) A structure as in Claim 31 further including a device for emitting electrons which strike the light-emissive region and cause it to emit light.

40. (Previously amended) A structure as in Claim 39 wherein the electron-emitting device includes a further getter region situated at least partially in an active electron-emitting portion of the electron-emitting device.

41. (Currently amended) A structure comprising:
a plate;
an electron-emissive element overlying the plate;
an electron-focusing system for focusing electrons emitted by the electron-emissive element, the electron-focusing system comprising an electrically non-insulating focus coating a support region overlying the plate; and
a getter region overlying at least part of the focus coating, support region, a composite opening extending through the getter region and the focus coating and support regions generally laterally where the electron-emissive element overlies the plate, the composite opening comprising (a) an opening through the getter region and (b) an opening through the focus coating, support region.

42 - 56. (Canceled)

57. (Original) A structure as in Claim 41 wherein the getter region consists largely of only a single atomic element.

58. (Original) A structure as in Claim 57 wherein the single atomic element is one of aluminum, titanium, vanadium, iron, zirconium, niobium, molybdenum, barium, tantalum, tungsten, and thorium.

59 - 83. (Canceled)

84. (Previously amended) A structure comprising:
a plate;
a group of electron-emissive elements overlying the plate;
a group of laterally separated control electrodes for selectively extracting electrons from the electron-emissive elements or for selectively passing electrons emitted by the electron-emissive elements, the control electrodes overlying the plate, the electron-emissive elements being exposed through respective openings in the control electrodes; and
a getter region overlying the plate at least partially between a consecutive pair of the control electrodes.

85 - 96. (Canceled)

97. (Previously amended) A structure as in Claim 84 wherein the getter region consists largely of only a single atomic element.

98. (Previously amended) A structure as in Claim 84 wherein the single atomic element is one of aluminum, titanium, vanadium, iron, zirconium, niobium, molybdenum, barium, tantalum, tungsten, and thorium.

99. (Currently amended) A structure comprising:

a plate;
a group of electron-emissive elements overlying the plate;
a group of laterally separated control electrodes for selectively extracting electrons from the electron-emissive elements or for selectively passing electrons emitted by the electron-emissive elements, the control electrodes overlying the plate;
a raised section overlying the plate and extending over at least part of each control electrode; and
a getter region overlying the plate and exposed through or/and situated in a plurality of primary openings opening in the raised section.

100 - 113. (Canceled)

114. (Previously amended) A structure comprising:
a plate;

a dielectric layer overlying the plate;
a group of electron-emissive elements overlying the plate and situated mostly in respective laterally separated openings in the dielectric layer; and
a getter region overlying at least part of the dielectric layer and contacting, or connected by directly underlying electrically non-insulating material to, the dielectric layer, at least part of the getter region situated above a location between a pair of the openings in the dielectric layer.

115 - 265. (Canceled)

266. (Previously presented) A structure as in Claim 31 wherein the getter region comprises at least one of aluminum, titanium, vanadium, iron, zirconium, niobium, molybdenum, barium, tantalum, tungsten, and thorium.

267 - 280. (Canceled)

281. (Previously presented) A structure as in Claim 114 wherein the getter region comprises at least one of aluminum, titanium, vanadium, iron, zirconium, niobium, molybdenum, barium, tantalum, tungsten, and thorium.

282 - 288. (Canceled)

289. (Previously presented) A structure comprising:

a plate;

a light-blocking region overlying the plate and being generally non-transmissive of visible light, a multiplicity of openings extending largely through the light-blocking region above where the plate is generally transmissive of visible light;

a like multiplicity of laterally separated light-emissive regions overlying the plate, each light-emissive region situated at least partially in a different corresponding one of the openings in the light-blocking region;

a getter region overlying at least part of the light-blocking region and extending no more than partially laterally across each light-emissive region such that material of the getter region overlies the light-blocking region above locations between pairs of adjacent ones of the light-emissive regions; and

a perforated electrically non-insulating layer overlying at least part of the getter region or/and at least part of each light-emissive region.

290 - 309. (Canceled)

310. (Previously presented) A structure comprising:

a plate;

a light-blocking region overlying the plate and being generally non-transmissive of visible light, a multiplicity of openings extending largely through the light-blocking region above where the plate is generally transmissive of visible light;

a like multiplicity of laterally separated light-emissive regions overlying the plate, each light-emissive region situated at least partially in a different corresponding one of the openings in the light-blocking region;

an electrically non-insulating layer overlying at least part of the light-blocking region; and

a getter region overlying at least part of the non-insulating layer above the light-blocking region, a like multiplicity of openings extending largely through the getter region respectively generally laterally where the light-emissive regions overlie the plate such that material of the getter region overlies the non-insulating region above locations between pairs of adjacent ones of the light-emissive regions.

311 - 318. (Canceled)

319. (Currently amended) A structure comprising:

a plate;

a multiplicity of laterally separated electron-emissive regions overlying the plate;

an electron-focusing system for focusing electrons emitted by the electron-emissive regions, the electron-focusing system comprising an electrically non-insulating focus coating a ~~support region~~ overlying the plate; and

a getter region overlying at least part of the focus coating, support region, a multiplicity of composite openings extending through the focus coating and the getter region and support regions generally laterally where the electron-emissive regions overlie the plate, each composite opening comprising (a) an opening through the getter region and (b) an opening through the focus coating support region such that material of the getter region

overlies the focus coating support region above locations between pairs of adjacent electron-emissive electron-emitting regions.

320 - 364. (Canceled)

365. (New) A structure comprising:

a plate;

an electron-emissive element overlying the plate;

a control electrode for selectively extracting electrons from the electron-emissive element or for selectively passing electrons emitted by the electron-emissive element, the control electrode overlying the plate;

a getter region extending over the control electrode above the plate; and

an electrically insulating layer situated between the getter region and the control electrode so as to separate the getter region and the control electrode, the getter region being thicker than the insulating layer, a composite opening extending through the getter region and the control electrode generally laterally where the electron-emissive element overlies the plate, the composite opening comprising (a) an opening through the getter region and (b) an opening through the control electrode.

366. (New) A structure as in Claim 365 wherein the getter region is at least twice as thick as the insulating layer.

367. (New) A structure as in Claim 365 wherein the getter region is at least twenty times as thick as the insulating layer.

368. (New) A structure as in Claim 365 wherein the getter region comprises at least one of aluminum, titanium, vanadium, iron, zirconium, niobium, molybdenum, barium, tantalum, tungsten, and thorium.